MARVEL
PSR 60

EXILES

10TH ANNIVERSARY
AGE of APOCALYPSE

"NONE OF US WHO LIVED THROUGH IT WILL EVER FORGET HUMANKIND'S DARKEST HOUR--*THE* AGE of APOCALYPSE

"THE MUTANT WAR-CRIMINAL, HIS SON ***HOLOCAUST***, AND THEIR ARMY OF SO-CALLED ***INFINITES*** SCARRED THE EARTH LIKE NOTHING BEFORE OR SINCE."

Son of Apocalypse

PART ONE OF TWO

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"LOOKING BACK ON THOSE TERRIBLE YEARS, THE **METHOD** TO THEIR MADNESS IS OBVIOUS. ORDINARY HUMANS--'FLATSCANS'--WERE **EXTERMINATED.**

"**MUTANT** CHILDREN, ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE DELIVERED TO **SINISTER,** ONE OF APOCALYPSE'S NOTORIOUS **FOUR HORSEMEN.**

"THESE YOUNG VICTIMS OF SINISTER'S **GENETIC EXPERIMENTS** LIVED IN FEAR AND DIED IN PAIN. WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE THE **HORRORS** PERPETRATED WITHIN THE WALLS OF THESE BREEDING PENS..."

...AND SO, JUST AS THE **NAZI** DEATH CAMPS WERE PRESERVED AS A REMINDER THAT WE MUST NEVER AGAIN SINK TO SUCH DEPTHS OF DEPRAVITY--

"THE PENS" NATIONAL MONUMENT HISTORIC LANDMARK 7148

--SO, TOO, HAVE ***THE PENS*** BEEN KEPT AS A WARNING FROM HISTORY, TO HONOR THOSE WHO DIED HERE, AND TO KEEP THEIR MEMORY ALIVE.

PHOTOGRAPHY IS ALLOWED, BUT PLEASE STAY IN THE DESIGNATED AREAS. AND IF YOU FEEL A BIT...***OVER-COME,*** WELL, YOU WON'T BE THE FIRST...

Um, IS THAT PART OF THE TOUR, TOO?!

MMMMMMMMMMMMMM--

BLOOONK

WHERE IN THE...?

NO EXIT

THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT PART OF THE TOUR, FOLKS! EVERYBODY OUT!

MISTER CREED...!

YEAH, I RECOGNIZE IT TOO, PUP. NOT SURE I BELIEVE IT, BUT IT SURE SMELLS REAL...

NO EXIT

WELCOME HOME, BLINK. THOSE HAPPY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES JUST COME FLOODING BACK, DON'T THEY?

YOU HAVE **NO IDEA** WHAT I WENT THROUGH IN THIS PLACE, TIMEBROKER!

ON THE CONTRARY. I KNOW **EVERYTHING** ABOUT YOUR PAST, BLINK.

WHY'D YOU BRING US **HERE**, Y'MISERABLE PIPSQUEAK?

I TOLD YOU **BEFORE**, SABRETOOTH-- YOU REFUSED THE LAST MISSION I SENT YOU. SO YOU'RE HERE TO BE **PUNISHED**.

SOME PUNISHMENT--! WE THOUGHT THIS WORLD WAS **TOAST**! NOW YOU SHOW US OUR HOME STILL **EXISTS**!

THIS IS THE **BEST** NEWS IN AGES! RIGHT, CLARICE?

...

WHAT ABOUT MY OLD X-MEN BUDDIES? ARE THEY STILL ALIVE, TOO?

WAIT A MINUTE. WHERE'S BEAK?

GETCHER HAND OFFA ME, MIMIC.

FIRST HEATHER HUDSON FAILED TO EMERGE FROM A JUMP, NOW THE BIRD-BOY IS MISSING. WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THEM, TIMEBROKER?

THOSE TWO PROVED THEMSELVES USELESS, NAMORA, SO I REMOVED THEM FROM ACTIVE DUTY.

BUT DON'T WORRY FOR THEM-- THEY'RE THE LUCKY ONES.

WORRY FOR YOUR-SELVES...

SNAP

BLINK, MIMIC, MORPH, SABRETOOTH AND NAMORA... MEET YOUR NEW TEAMMATE...

MMMMMMMMM

BOOM

Whu--?!

WHERE AM I?

HOW DID I GET HERE!

FLAMING SKULL...BAD ATTITUDE...THIS ISN'T ANOTHER **GHOST RIDER** KNOCKOFF, IS IT?

NO, MORPH... IT'S SOMETHING INFINITELY **WORSE...**

MORPH...? WHY DON'T YOU **REMEMBER** ME? YOUR FELLOW X-MEN OBVIOUSLY DO. DOES THIS MEAN I'M FINALLY **HOME?**

DEFENSIVE POSITIONS, EVERYBODY!

BLINK LEADS THIS TEAM, SABRETOOTH--!

YEAH...uh, JUST DO WHAT MISTER CREED SAID, OKAY?

SMART, CLARICE...

NO EXIT

HOLOCAUST! MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR A MOMENT? THERE ARE SOME STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS I USUALLY GIVE TO PEOPLE IN YOUR SITUATION.

I AM CALLED THE TIMEBROKER, AND YOU, SIR, HAVE BECOME UNHINGED FROM TIME.

?

YOU ARE HEREBY CHARGED WITH A SOLEMN DUTY-- TO TRAVEL FROM ONE PARALLEL REALITY TO THE NEXT, MENDING BROKEN WORLDS ACCORDING TO MY INSTRUCTIONS.

I AM THE SON OF MIGHTY APOCALYPSE, AND YOU EXPECT ME TO OBEY YOU?

I HAVE A BETTER IDEA! HOW ABOUT IF I "MEND" THIS REALITY BY REMOVING A FEW PESKY GENE-TRAITORS AND WHOEVER ELSE GETS ON MY NERVES--

--STARTING WITH YOU!

SHRAK

NOW THEN, BLINK AND SABRE-TOOTH, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE SOME *PAYBACK* COMING FOR TRYING TO *KILL* ME...

!

YOU CAN'T HURT ME, HOLOCAUST. I'M JUST A *FIGMENT* OF YOUR COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS, AFTER ALL.

AND IF YOU WON'T *LISTEN* TO WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU--

--THEN I'M AFRAID I'M FORCED TO *SHOW* YOU...

"...AMONG THE COUNTLESS REALITIES THAT I WATCH OVER, THIS ONE IS PARTICULARLY FASCINATING...AND ***DANGEROUS.***

"WHEN APOCALYPSE TOOK OVER THE WORLD, HE UNWITTINGLY CREATED A SITUATION THAT ENDANGERED THE ***REST*** OF THE MULTIVERSE.

"I HAD HOPED THAT SITUATION WOULD ***RESOLVE*** ITSELF WHEN MAGNETO AND HIS X-MEN MANAGED TO ***DEFEAT*** APOCALYPSE...

"...AND THE ***NUCLEAR BOMBS*** RAINING DOWN ON HIS MUTANT EMPIRE SEEMED TO ENSURE THAT THE THREAT I SPEAK OF WOULD NO LONGER BE A PROBLEM.

"BUT THE BOMBS NEVER FOUND THEIR MARK. THEY WERE ***AVERTED***, GIVING NORTH AMERICA A NEW LEASE ON LIFE--

"--AND SPARING APOCALYPSE'S HENCHMAN, ***SINISTER.***"

NOT LONG FROM NOW, MAGNETO AND HIS X-MEN WILL *CONFRONT* SINISTER. THEIR VICTORY WILL MISTAKENLY *DOOM* THIS WORLD.

THE EFFECT THEY UNLEASH WILL SPREAD LIKE A *CANCER*, DESTROYING UNIVERSE AFTER UNIVERSE.

YOUR MISSION IS TO *STOP* THE X-MEN, WHICH MEANS YOU'LL HAVE TO *KILL* THEM.

THAT'S YOUR PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS-- ALTHOUGH HOLOCAUST HERE WILL PROBABLY *ENJOY* IT, WHICH IS WHY HE'S ON THE TEAM.

DON'T MESS THIS UP, KIDS, OR IT'S *YOUR* BUTTS, TOO!

WAIT!

THAT ENTITY . THE TIMEBROKER WHAT HE SAID WAS *TRUE*...WASN T IT?

I CAN'T SAY WHY, BUT ..I *BELIEVE* HIM.

YEAH, IT'S TRUE. WE'VE ALL BEEN REALITY-HOPPIN' AND SAVIN' MESSED-UP EARTHS FOR A WHILE NOW

THIS BRACELET-- *THE TALLUS*--IS HOW HE KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH US AND TELLS US OUR MISSIONS. YOU STARTIN' TO GET THE PICTURE?

YES. VICTOR, *I AM.* I HAVE SEEN ANOTHER WORLD. I KNOW THEY EXIST.

THERE S SO MUCH MORE AT STAKE HERE THAN OUR OWN PALTRY VENDETTAS

WE'D BETTER GET MOVING. AFTER ALL, WE HAVE A *JOB* TO DO

JUST KIDD NG.

SHRAK

KOOOM

BLINK

GYAHHH!

EEEEEEEEEEE!

SO SINISTER THINKS HE CAN CLAIM MY FATHER'S THRONE?

HA!

IF APOCALYPSE HAS TRULY FALLEN, THEN THE WORLD'S MINE--SOMETHING THAT USURPER WILL LEARN WHEN I WEAR HIS GUTS FOR A NECKLACE!

NOBODY SAID YOU'RE EXCUSED, HOLOCAUST!

MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO KILL YOU AGAIN, VICTOR--

--YOU HEARD THE LITTLE MAN-- THE CLOCK IS TICKING!

I CAN CATCH HIM! I'M FASTER--

NO, CAL! HOLOCAUST IS TOO MUCH FOR ANY ONE OF US!

BLINK'S RIGHT. IT'S GONNA TAKE ALL OF US AT ONCE...

FIRST I'M *BANISHED* TO A BACKWARDS EARTH WHERE MUTANTS AND FLATSCANS LIVE IN *PEACE*--

--AND NOW THAT HOLOGRAPHIC *BUTLER* RETURNS ME HOME AND EXPECTS TO ORDER ME AROUND?!

FOR A MAN WHO'S KILLED *MILLIONS*, I DESERVE A LITTLE MORE *RESPECT*--!

NO MATTER--ALL THAT COUNTS IS THAT I AM *HOME* AGAIN.

ONCE I DISPOSE OF SINISTER, I'LL HAVE SOME *FUN* WITH THE X-MEN, NOT TO MENTION CREED AND HIS FRIENDS I'LL--

Eh?

WHAT *IS* THAT?

FEELS... *FAMILIAR*...

YESSS...THAT HARMONIC--FAINT BUT UNMISTAKABLE...

FORGET SINISTER! THIS COULD BE *MUCH* BIGGER THAN A MERE WORLD TO CONQUER!

U.S. AIR FORCE RESEARCH POST BRAVO-ECHO

MISTER SECRETARY, THIS IS GENERAL HUNTLEY. WE HAVE SOME PRETTY ***SERIOUS*** DEVELOPMENTS TO REPORT...

ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, WE PICKED UP TWO NEW CONTACTS WITH ENERGY PROFILES MATCHING THE RESONANCE READINGS WE GET FROM ***THE ITEM.***

THAT'S RIGHT. ONE MINUTE THEY WEREN'T THERE, THE NEXT WE'VE GOT SENSORS TRIPPING AT THE ***PENS NATIONAL MONUMENT.***

A SHORT TIME LATER, ONE OF THOSE CONTACTS LEFT THE AREA AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. NOW IT'S ON AN INTERCEPT COURSE WITH ***US.***

YES, SIR, I M WONDERING THE SAME THING--***WHO*** ON EARTH WOULD KNOW WHAT WE VE GOT ***HIDDEN*** IN HERE? NOT EVEN THE DIRECTOR OF MUTANT AFFAIRS IS IN THE LOOP.

NO, WE CAN'T I.D. IT. AN AIRCRAFT? MISSILE? MAYBE WHOEVER ***OWNED*** THE CRYSTAL IS COMING TO GET IT BACK? WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE ***APOCALYPSE*** FOUND IT, SO IT'S ANYONE S GUESS.

YES, SIR MISSILE BATTERIES ARE ARMED. IF WE'RE LUCKY, IT'LL JUST BE AN UNMANNED DRONE.

ACKNOWLEDGED. IF NEED BE, I'LL ***SCUTTLE*** THE FACILITY, RATHER THAN LET IT BE--

GENERAL! THE BANDIT JUST ACCELERATED ***THROUGH*** THE DEFENSE GRID! WE VE GOT ***INCOMING!***

THERE IT IS!

THUD

THE M'KRAAN CRYSTAL. I KNEW IT!

M... M'KRAAN...?

YOU STOLE THIS FROM MY FATHER! YOU STOLE MY INHERITANCE!

...IT HAS A NAME...?

OF COURSE IT HAS A NAME!

HOLOCAUST--!

WAIT A MINUTE...

YOU LITTLE HALF-WITS FOUND THIS THING IN THE HOUSE OF APOCALYPSE, AND YOU KNEW IT WAS IMPORTANT, BUT ..

...YOU DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHAT IT REALLY IS, DO YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT, MURDERER. A YEAR OF PROBING, AND WE'RE STILL AT SQUARE ONE. SO BEFORE I KILL YOU, TELL ME WHAT THAT BIG ROCK DOES.

BRAVE WORDS FROM A MAN W TH NO ONE TO BACK HIM UP

I'M NOT BRAVE. I JUST KNOW WE'RE BOTH AS GOOD AS DEAD.

WE PUT AN H-BOMB UNDER THE FLOOR, IN CASE THE CRYSTAL TURNED OUT TO BE SOME KINDA DOOMSDAY DEVICE, OR A GATEWAY TO HELL-- OR WHATEVER.

I JUST THOUGHT I MIGHT FINALLY GET A FEW ANSWERS BEFORE I PUSH THE BUTTON AND HEAD OFF TO THE BIG P.X. IN THE SKY.

L'STEN CLOSELY, LITTLE MAN. THE M'KRAAN CRYSTAL IS A NEXUS OF REALITIES--A PLACE WHERE D FFERENT UNIVERSES NTERSECT.

MAGNETO WANTED TO USE .T TO CHANGE THE PAST AND UNDO THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE. FOR A T ME I THOUGHT HE'D SUCCEEDED...

"...DURING THE LAST BATTLE, ONE OF THE GENE-TRAITORS STABBED ME WITH A SHARD OF THE CRYSTAL, CASTING US BOTH TO AN ALTERNATE VERSION OF EARTH WHERE APOCALYPSE WAS HELD IN CHECK."

THIS THING IS CONNECTED TO ALTERNATE REALITIES...? GOOD LORD, IF YOU LEARNED TO *USE* IT, YOU COULD--

CONQUER A THOUSAND *OTHER* EARTHS? ALTER HISTORY TO WIN *EVERY BATTLE?*

THOSE WERE POSSIBILITIES APOCALYPSE CONSIDERED BEFORE MAGNETO *RUINED* EVERYTHING. NOW I HAVE A SECOND CHANCE TO CARRY ON HIS LEGACY.

IS THAT DETONATOR STARTING TO FEEL A BIT *HEAVY?*

WHAT'S.. HAPPENING TO ME...?

WEREN'T YOU BRIEFED ON MY MUTANT *GIFT*, OR DID YOU ASSUME MY *ARMOR* DID ALL THE WORK?

I WAS BORN WITH THE ABILITY TO CONSUME *LIFE-ENERGY.*

IN FACT, I'VE BEEN SNACKING ON *YOURS* SINCE YOU FOOLISHLY ENTERED THIS ROOM.

I HOPE THOSE ANSWERS YOU WANTED WERE *WORTH IT.*

WHUMP

NOW, WHO'S *NEXT* ON THE MENU?

WAIT! I HAVE INFORMATION YOU *NEED!* THERE WAS A SECOND CONTACT WITH A RESONANCE FREQUENCY JUST LIKE *YOURS!*

A *SECOND* CONTACT...?

LET ME *LIVE* AND I'LL HELP YOU *FIND* IT!

OH, I'M PRETTY SURE I ALREADY *KNOW* WHAT'S PUTTING OUT THAT SIGNAL...

"...THOUGH I'M CURIOUS WHY I DIDN'T *SENSE* IT WHEN IT WAS RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE."

YER NOT *LISTENING*--! WE NEED TO SPEAK TO MAGNETO *IMMEDIATELY*! DON'TCHA *RECOGNIZE* ME? I USEDTA RUN WITH THE *X-MEN*!

I *TOLD* YOU, DIRECTOR LENSHERR IS *OCCUPIED* RIGHT NOW WITH A NATIONAL EMERGENCY.

YOU CAN SPEAK WITH THE *DEPUTY* DIRECTOR OF MUTANT AFFAIRS THIS AFTERNOON, ONCE WE RUN A *SECURITY CHECK* ON YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS.

LADY, THAT NATIONAL EMERGENCY YOU MENTIONED IS *WHY* WE'RE HERE! WAITIN' ON YOUR BUREAUCRACY COULD COST US *ALL* OUR LIVES!

JUST *CALL* HIM! TELL HIM *SABRETOOTH* AND *BLINK* ARE HERE! I *GUARANTEE* HE WON'T MIND THE INTERRUPTION!

I, AH... OKAY...

COME ON, VICTOR, YOU'RE SCARING THE WRONG PEOPLE...

THAT'S THE *SECOND* TIME TODAY YOU'VE TRIED TO HOLD ME BACK, RANKIN! NEXT TIME YOU *LOSE* THAT HAND!

AND *DON'T* CALL ME VICTOR! SABRETOOTH'LL DO FER *YOU!*

TIMEBROKER COULDN'T JUST *TELL* US WHERE TO FIND MAGNETO. THAT'D BE TOO MUCH TO ASK THESE DAYS...

I FAIL TO SEE WHY WE LISTEN TO HIM *AT ALL.*

BAD ENOUGH YOU'RE ALL COZY WITH CLARICE! JUST DON'T EXPECT *ME* TA BE YOUR BEST BUD!

THAT *LAST* MISSION HE GAVE US-- TO "KILL MIMIC"? I DON'T BELIEVE IT WAS A *REAL* MISSION AT ALL.

SOMETHING'S *CHANGED*. PERHAPS HE HAS GONE INSANE, I DON'T KNOW, BUT I BELIEVE THE TIMEBROKER JUST WANTS TO WATCH US *SQUIRM*...

...LIKE A CHILD PULLING THE LEGS OFF A STARFISH ONE BY ONE, JUST FOR THE SHEER SADISTIC *THRILL* OF IT.

BUT WE CAN'T RISK DOING *NOTHING* WHEN HE SAID--

BOOM

WHAT WAS *THAT?*

RUN!
HE'S BACK!
AW, NO...
EVERYONE SPREAD OUT AND--
NAMORA! YOU AND MIMIC HIT FIRST!
MORPH AND I WILL BE RIGHT ON YOUR HEELS.
BLINK, IF HE FIRES THAT GUN, 'PORT IT RIGHT BACK AT 'IM...

WAIT, VICTOR, THIS TIME I REALLY *DIDN'T* COME TO FIGHT. I'VE MADE A DISCOVERY THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING FOR ME *AND* FOR YOU.

BETWEEN US, WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO BREAK FREE OF THE TIMEBROKER'S CONTROL AND GAIN ACCESS TO THE REST OF THE MULTIVERSE. WE JUST HAVE TO *COMBINE* THEM.

WHAT TOOLS?

WELL...I HAVE THE M'KRAAN CRYSTAL...

...AND *YOU* HAVE THE TALLUS.

AND UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THAT'S ALL WE NEED TO WIN BACK OUR LIVES AND OUR DESTINIES!

NEXT:

AGAINST THE X-MEN!